

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 267187
ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-10 CA-01 VO-03 IO-13 SS-15
SP-02 /050 R

DRAFTED BY HA:JCHAVCHAVADZE/CV
APPROVED BY HA:JLCARLIN
HA/ORM - SCLOWMAN (INFO)
HA/HR - MSCHNEIDER
ARA - FRONDON
CA -JDWITT
WHITE HOUSE - RRUSSELL
-----005134 081948Z /47

P 081857Z NOV 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 267187

STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: SREF, SHUM, CVIS, AR

SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE INTEREST IN VOGLERS AND OTHER
DETAINEES

REF: HARRIS/CHAVCHAVADZE TELECOM 11-2-77

FOR THE CHARGE

1. THE WHITE HOUSE CALLED THE DEPT. TO INQUIRE (1)
WHAT IS BEING DONE TO SECURE THE RELEASE AND SAFE ENTRY INTO
THE U.S. FOR GUILLERMO AND LILIANA VOGLER AND (11) WHAT IS
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BEING DONE FOR OTHER ARGENTINE DETAINEES OF INTEREST TO
THE U.S.

2. WITH RESPECT TO QUESTION 1, WE REPLIED THAT: (A) THE
EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES IS MAKING AN ALL OUT EFFORT TO
PROCESS GUILLERMO VOGLER AND HIS DAUGHTER FOR 5TH
PREFERENCE IMMIGRANT VISAS AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AND AS

RESOURCEFULLY AS POSSIBLE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF U.S. LAW, THE URGENCY OF THE SITUATION, AND THE NUMEROUS IMPEDIMENTS IMPOSED BY THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES; (B) THE CASE OF THE DAUGHTER LILIANA IS MORE COMPLICATED BECAUSE SHE IS BEING HELD UNDER PARALLELED DETENTION. HOWEVER THE

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FACTS OF HER CASE ARE WELL UNDERSTOOD BY THE EMBASSY WHICH IS ACTING AS AN ADVOCATE ON HER BEHALF WITH THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES IN ORDER TO SECURE HER RELEASE. EMBASSY ALSO IS PRESSING FOR RELEASE FOR THE HUNDREDS OF OTHER CASES OF CONGRESSIONAL AND U.S. INTEREST.

3. WITH RESPECT TO QUESTION II, WE REPLIED THAT THE DEPT. IS RECOMMENDING TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL A HEMISPHERIC AUTHORIZATION FOR UP TO 500 POLITICAL REFUGEES AND DETAINEES FROM LATIN AMERICA (PLUS THEIR FAMILIES) TO BE PROCESSED OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS. SUCH AN AUTHORIZATION WOULD PROVIDE POSTS IN LATIN AMERICA WITH A MEANS TO ASSIST URGENT REFUGEE CASES, AS WELL AS DETAINEES OF INTEREST TO THE U.S. SUCH AS THE VOGLERS.

4. COMMENTS AND FURTHER ACTION REQUESTED: THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT RATHER THAN TAKE THE LEAD, THE USG TAKE PART IN AN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT TO SECURE THE RELEASE AND INTERNATIONAL RESETTLEMENT OF ARGENTINE DETAINEES AS HAS CONFIDENTIAL

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BEEN DONE IN CHILE SINCE 1973. IN THIS REGARD THE UPCOMING VISIT OF THE ICRC REPRESENTATIVE NESSI TO BUENOS AIRES COULD BE USED TO EXPLORE A POSSIBLE ROLE FOR THE ICRC (STATE 263658). IT IS OUR VIEW THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF ICEM ASSUMING THE LEADERSHIP IN COORDINATING THE RELEASE AND INTERNATIONAL RESETTLEMENT OF ARGENTINE DETAINEES COULD AT THIS TIME BEST BE EXPLORED IN BUENOS AIRES AMONG EMBASSIES AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS CONCERNED, SINCE WE UNDERSTAND THAT A NUMBER OF EMBASSIES ARE ALREADY INVOLVED. IF EMBASSY CONCURS, WE SUGGEST THAT YOU DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF ICEM, ICRC AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES TAKING THE LEAD WITH CONCERNED EMBASSIES, THE PAPAL NUNCIO AND WHATEVER OTHER RELIGIOUS GROUPS OR ORGANIZATIONS YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE, WITH THE OBJECTIVE BEING THEIR TAKING THE INITIATIVE IN PRESENTING THE PROBLEM TO ICEM, ICRC, AND THE INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY AGENCIES. AS DEVELOPMENTS ARISE, WE ARE PREPARED TO COORDINATE SUCH INITIATIVES WITH THE GENEVA HEADQUARTERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS, AS PART OF A U.S. GOVERNMENT'S PARTICIPATION IN AN INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN EFFORT.

5. DEPARTMENT WISHES TO COMMEND EMBASSY FOR EFFORTS ON

BEHALF OF THE VOGLERS AND OTHER DETAINEES AND WELCOMES
COMMENTS ON THE ABOVE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION CONTROL, POLITICAL PRISONERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE267187
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JCHAVCHAVADZE/CV
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770412-0748
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771182/aaaacspf.tel
Line Count: 118
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 472a461f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN HA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 670746
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WHITE HOUSE INTEREST IN VOGLERS AND OTHER DETAINEES
TAGS: SREF, SHUM, CVIS, AR, US, (VOGLER, GUILLERMO), (VOGLER, LILLIANA)
To: BUENOS AIRES
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/472a461f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009